

**ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
DARIEN, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
OCTOBER 25, 2016**

Members Present: E. Geiger, M. Castell, T. Macdonald, A. Hughes, D. Reilly, S. Brown
Staff Present: D. Keating

The Special Meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM in Room 213 of the Town Hall.

ARB #26-2016

Department of Public Works Garage, 126 Ledge Road, R 1/3 & SB Zones
Proposed building addition

Edward Gentile, Director of Public Works, presented an improved L-shaped garage with a beige stain over brick, trim and door surrounded by a dark brown entrance of flat seamed metal panels. The proposed addition will comprise of roughly 11,000 square feet of new space puzzled around the current structure. The exterior of the new office space portion facing Ledge Road will be done in a dark brown metal paneling with horizontal accents between panels. The two service bay additions will be done in brick and painted beige, as will all existing brick to match. The cast stone band accent found on the current service bay will be continued as linear element around the entire new addition. In addition, garage panels from the current service bays will be replaced to match the new garage panels on the addition, which will all be painted beige. A new roof will be constructed across the entire structure both new and old. The roof has a black light bay matching the roof color. The Board requested the color selection be carefully considered to match the proposed brown and beige façade renovation. There will be no changes to the exterior lighting but it was noted that all current sconces should maintain light color range under 3000 K.

It was further discussed that new landscaping would be implemented along Ledge Road to further improve the facility aesthetics and its relation to the surrounding area. It is landscaped with black Tupelo and spruces screening the fuel area.

The application for proposed building additions to the DPW facility at 126 Ledge Road was reviewed and issued a favorable report.

Continuation of ARB #24-2016

Maplewood of Darien, 599 Boston Post Road, DB-2 and R-1/2 zones.
Proposed building addition and façade review

Michael Stein, of Stein Troost Architects, outlined an extended entrance drive from the original proposal that was a continuation at the base of the current planter wall. It will end with a walled higher grade.

Two options were discussed about breaking the shingle façade. One was with stone facing from foundation to roof, and the other would have 2/3 stone façade up to the shingle line. This latter 2/3 stone facade option was agreed upon. The transformer will have north side evergreen screening, and a clear street number sign placed on the wall. Based on the revised plans and the

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above discussion, the Board will issue a favorable report to the Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the building façade design.

ARB #27-2016

Sedgwick Village Condo Association entrance to Sedgwick Village, DB-1 Zone.
Proposing two piers with lighting.

Barbara Yaeger, ASLA, proposed two fieldstone piers, each 4 foot wide x 5 foot tall, capped with blue stone and topped with a brass –with- rust finish lighted lanterns 18 ¾” by 11 ½” as an entrance to a 25 foot wide driveway. There was much discussion about the particular type of light, and the size of the pillars. It was felt that the pillars were too massive, and it was decided that two mockups of two by fours, sized at 3 foot wide x 5 foot tall and 2 foot wide x 5 foot tall would be put in place in the drive and the Board members would come by to look at them. The lantern would need to have softer lights to avoid a glare problem, but the style is appropriate. No decision at this time.

ARB #28-2016

Morley, 1020 Boston Post Road, CBD Zone
Proposed wall and blade sign

Megan Addison, in anticipation of her new store, described a proposed wall sign of ¾” thick urethane and blade sign of metal, each have a field of 318 Blue Pantone with white trim. The reaction of the Board was to increase the depth of the signs and allow a temporary sign until the others are revised. The Board supported the overall sign design and issued a favorable report for the two ‘MORLEY’ signs, but with changes to the signage material. We request the sign be made of carved lettering on pressed wood, or another material more substantial than the proposed flat sheet of aluminum with vinyl lettering. The fonts, sign size and color of both the wall and blade signs were supported. Revised drawings need to illustrate the changes and be submitted to the Zoning Enforcement Officer.

ARB #29-2016

Wee Burn Country Club, 410 Hollow Tree Ridge Road, R-2 Zone.
Proposed replacement tennis storage shed and golf “starter shack”.

Attorney Bruce Hill described the proposed tennis storage shed as 16’x 20’, with 8’ walls and a roof peak of 12’11”. This will be engineered wood siding painted in Essex green to blend in with the background vegetation, with no exterior lighting and will not be visible from the road. The proposed Starter Shack is 8’x8’ will have a cream stucco exterior and red clay tile roof, without lights. The whole structure, including the entrance and windows, will exactly match the existing clubhouse in every detail.

The application was reviewed and issued a favorable report.

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Farmer's Insurance, 975 Boston Post Road, CBD zone.
Proposed wall sign

Elizabeth Tarantino outlined a proposed aluminum sign with blue background and white lettering for the second story of this building in which there will be two tenants. To clearly identify each tenant, the Board concluded that the best location was to have both signs - one over the other, above the entrance door and below the signage band for the first floor tenants. The Farmer's *half moon light burst logo* in three colors was to be centered and extended above the sign's top. The address of 975 was to be 10 inches and centered in the signage band above the windows. Revised drawings need to illustrate the changes and be submitted to the Zoning Enforcement Officer.

Informal discussion on Mather Homestead Protected Town Landmark

There was unified support following Robert Maslan's proposal to create a Protected Town Landmark for the 18th century Stephen Mather house and grounds on Stephen Mather Road. As Darien Town Historian, Marian Castell also shared a little about the background of this house and the Mather the family as well as her support of the Landmark status.

Approval of Minutes

September 13, 2016 and September 20, 2016 minutes were approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Castell

S:WINWORD/ARB/10.25.2016min